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1. There were five large hospitals in Krakow; the largest was St. Lazarus. One of these hospitals catered exclusively to members of the Ministry of Public Security and their families and to state officials. Another hospital, part of a socialized medicine plan, treated individuals and families of workers employed in state factories and similar state enterprises, from whom a certain amount of monthly pay was withheld for these benefits. In addition, this hospital treated unemployed persons, but at their own expense. Another hospital treated tubercular and chest diseases.
2. There was a shortage of doctors in all hospitals. Nuns were being replaced by female nurses, of which there was no particular shortage. There were a number of nurses' training schools. After a ten-month course, plus one month of practical experience, nurse trainees became regular nurses. I do not know the educational prerequisites for attendance.
3. There was one large clinic, the Krakow First Aid Clinic (Krakowskie Pogotowie Ratunkowe), which treated routine ambulatory cases, administered drug injections, issued medications, or wrote prescriptions which were filled by local apothecaries for a nominal fee. In addition, the clinic treated certain emergency cases resulting from accidents, fires, and similar causes. I heard a number of civilians state that certain drugs were not available for injections, but the patients were advised to secure such drugs themselves through friendly druggists or outside of Poland. The clinic would administer the drugs if the patients brought them to the clinic. I do not know what illnesses required the unavailable drugs. The clinic was authorized to send patients requiring hospitalization to a hospital for treatment.

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4. For emergency treatment, an ambulance service was available to the populace of Krakow. A doctor usually accompanied the ambulance to treat the patient or to remove him to the hospital. The ambulance responded to anyone telephoning for such service. For those residing in rural areas, it was necessary to notify the nearest police station or officer, who immediately summoned the ambulance upon verification of the emergency. This procedure was established to avoid unnecessary trips.
5. In general I would say the quality of medical care in Poland was not good.

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